

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

Claim 1 A retrofit unit for a fluorescent lighting fixture comprising a chamber having a protruding bottom wall for enclosing an existing fluorescent strip light fixture, wherein said retrofit unit further has a ballast in said chamber affixed to said protruding bottom wall and a plurality of downwardly extending lamp holders.

Claim 2 The retrofit unit of Claim 1 further comprising two opposing side walls affixed to said bottom wall.

Claim 3 The retrofit unit of Claim 2 further having a first and second end cap at opposite ends of said retrofit unit and affixed to said two side and bottom walls.

Claim 4 The retrofit unit of Claim 2 wherein said bottom wall has a first and second angled surface.

Claim 5 The retrofit unit of Claim 4 wherein said first and second angled surfaces have at least one pair of downwardly extending lamp holders.

Claim 6 The retrofit unit of Claim 1 further having power leads extending from said ballast into said chamber.

Claim 7 The retrofit unit of Claim 1 having lamp holder wiring leading from said lamp holders to said ballast.

Claim 8 A retrofit unit for a fluorescent lighting fixture comprising a projecting bottom surface and two oppositely attached side walls forming a chamber for enclosing an existing fluorescent strip light fixture, said projecting bottom surface having at least one pair of opposing lamp holders extending downwardly.

Claim 9 The retrofit unit of Claim 8 further comprising a ballast inside of said chamber and being affixed to said projecting bottom surface of said retrofit unit.

Claim 10 The retrofit unit of Claim 9 further having lamp holder wiring attached to said ballast and to said lamp holders.

Claim 11 The retrofit unit of Claim 8 wherein said projecting bottom surface has a flat surface and a plurality of angled surfaces extending the length of said bottom surface.

Claim 12 The retrofit unit of Claim 8 further comprising a opposing pair of end caps being removably attached to said bottom surface and two oppositely attached side walls surrounding said chamber.

Claim 13 The retrofit unit of Claim 8 further having a plurality of mounting brackets removeably attached to said side walls.

Claim 14 A retrofit unit for a fluorescent lighting fixture comprising:

a protruding bottom wall interposed between a first sidewall and a second sidewall forming an interior chamber having open ends, said bottom wall having at least one pair of opposing lamp holders extending oppositely said interior chamber.

Claim 15 The retrofit unit of Claim 14 further comprising a retrofit ballast in said interior chamber and affixed to said protruding bottom wall.

Claim 16 The retrofit unit of Claim 14 wherein said protruding bottom wall has a plurality of angled surfaces extending the length of said bottom wall.

Claim 17 The retrofit unit of Claim 14 further comprising end caps, said end caps being removably attached to said retrofit unit at said open ends of said interior chamber.

Claim 18 The retrofit unit of Claim 14 further comprising a plurality of mounting brackets, said plurality of mounting brackets removeably attached to said first and second sidewall opposite said bottom wall.

Claim 19 The retrofit unit of Claim 18 wherein each of said mounting brackets has a first end, a second end, and a horizontal arm extending between said first and second end, said first end having a depending leg extending downward from said horizontal arm, said depending leg having an upturned hook that cooperates

with a plurality of slots opposite said bottom wall in said first sidewall.

Claim 20 The retrofit unit of Claim 15 further comprising lamp holder wiring attached to said lamp holders and said ballast.

Claim 21 The retrofit unit of Claim 15 further comprising ballast power leads extending from said ballast into said interior chamber.

Claim 22 A retrofit unit for a fluorescent lighting fixture comprising:

a retrofit unit forming an elongated retrofit channel having a protruding bottom side;

a ballast attached to an interior surface of said protruding bottom side;

at least one pair of opposing lamp holders attached to an exterior surface of said retrofit channel; and

a plurality of mounting brackets removably attached to said retrofit channel opposite said bottom side.

Claim 23 A retrofit assembly for a fluorescent lighting fixture comprising:

an existing fluorescent lighting fixture having an existing ballast and existing plurality of lamp holders;

a retrofit unit forming an elongated retrofit channel surrounding said existing fluorescent light fixture;

a ballast attached to an interior surface of said retrofit channel;

at least one pair of opposing lamp holders attached to an exterior surface of said retrofit unit; and

a plurality of mounting brackets removably attached to two opposing sides of said retrofit unit.

Claim 24 A method for retrofitting a fluorescent lighting fixture, comprising the steps of:

disconnecting power to an existing fluorescent lighting fixture; removing lamps and ballast cover from said existing lighting fixture;

placing a plurality of mounting brackets on top of said existing lighting fixture;

hanging a retrofit unit on said plurality of mounting brackets, wherein said plurality of mounting brackets cooperate with slots in a side of said retrofit unit;

connecting power and ground leads to said retrofit unit;

swinging up said retrofit unit adjacent said plurality of mounting brackets; and

attaching said retrofit unit to said plurality of mounting brackets.

Claim 25 An apparatus for retrofitting a fluorescent lighting fixture comprising:

a retrofit channel forming member having a protruding bottom wall and pair of opposing side walls;

at least one pair of opposing lamp holders affixed to said bottom wall;

a means for supplying power to said opposing lamp holders; and

a means for affixing said retrofit channel to an existing fluorescent lighting fixture.

Claim 26 The retrofitting apparatus of Claim 25 wherein said means for supplying power comprises a ballast affixed to said protruding bottom wall, ballast power leads, and lamp holder wiring.

Claim 27 The retrofitting apparatus of Claim 25 wherein said means for affixing said retrofit channel comprises a plurality of mounting brackets being removebly affixed to said pair of opposing side walls opposite said bottom wall.